

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending in this Application and are at issue.

The Examiner has objected to Figures 1-4 of the application. By this Response, Applicant is submitting corrected drawing sheets of Figures 1-4. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits this objection is now moot.

The Examiner has provisionally rejected claims 1-17 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-32 of copending Application No. 09/595162 in view of Ying et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,147,967). Applicant hereby submits a Terminal Disclaimer disclaiming the present application beyond the time the statutory term of any patent granted on Application No. 09/595162. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits this rejection is now moot.

A Power of Attorney to Prosecute Applications, together with attached Statement Under 3.73(b) and copy of executed Assignment, is provided herewith.

Atty Docket No. SAA-31-1 (402P255)

U.S. Application No. 09/927,854

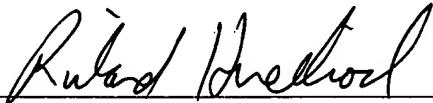
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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits claims 1-17 are in condition for allowance. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments associated with this Amendment to Deposit Account 23-0280. Applicant further invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number below to discuss any matters pertaining to the present Application.

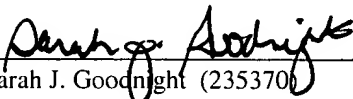
Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 20, 2005

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 20, 2005.


Sarah J. Goodnight (235370)